

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1020

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Chief Master Sergeant Sara A. Sellers, USAF, Retired, upon being appointed to the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Women Veterans.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy soul is Chief Master Sergeant Sara A. Sellers, USAF, Retired, who was recently invited to serve as a Secretarial Appointee on the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Women Veterans; and

WHEREAS, selected for the strength, competency, and advocacy for women veterans that she has demonstrated throughout her illustrious career, Sergeant Sellers will begin her appointment in June 2004, and her term will expire in September 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans provides advice and counsel to the Secretary on the needs of women veterans with respect to health care, rehabilitation benefits, compensation, outreach, and other relevant programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the committee meets at least three times annually to assess these areas and discuss recommendations to submit to the Secretary; and

WHEREAS, this appointment is yet another momentous milestone in the illustrious career of Sergeant Sara Sellers; and

WHEREAS, a 30-year veteran of the Air Force, Sergeant Sellers is a member of the American Battle Monument Commission and the Elizabethton-Carter County Veterans War Memorial Committee; and



WHEREAS, as a member of the American Battle Monument Commission, Sergeant Sellers shares responsibility for the upkeep, construction, and maintenance of military cemeteries and monuments in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, this Johnson City native has nobly served her country in Germany, Korea, Okinawa, the Aleutian Islands, Spain, England, and numerous stateside bases; and

WHEREAS, she successfully completed two tours of duty at the Pentagon and was assigned to the U.S. Air Force Headquarters and the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Sellers is wholly dedicated to her fellow soldiers; she visited the gravesites of U.S. military personnel in fourteen countries to pay respect and homage to the many sacrifices made in the pursuit and security of our many freedoms; and

WHEREAS, she diligently located the loved ones, including a brother, of a soldier who was buried in Normandy without a hometown listed on his tombstone; the family did not know where their beloved relative had been buried, so this endeavor provided peace and closure to their grief; and

WHEREAS, with compassion for her fallen comrades and dedication to veterans, Sergeant Sellers works tirelessly on behalf of these individuals; she is a frequent speaker at local, regional, and national events; and

WHEREAS, a praiseworthy advocate, Sergeant Sara Sellers epitomizes the spirit and commitment to the noble precepts of public service that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, she and her husband, Mike Sellers, have dedicated their lives in service to our country and its veterans; and

WHEREAS, her courageous and continued service stands as an enduring example of all the characteristics that have ensured the freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of history; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly, who are keenly aware of the courage and sacrifices of the hundreds of thousands of men and women serving in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard across the globe, find it fitting to pause

in their deliberations to honor a retired member of our armed forces who has demonstrated a remarkable dedication to her country and merits special recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize Chief Master Sergeant Sara A. Sellers, USAF, Retired, upon receiving a Secretarial Appointment to the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Women Veterans and extend to her our best wishes for a productive and memorable tenure in this role.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we thank Sergeant Sellers for her many years of dedicated service to our country as a member of the armed forces and as an advocate for veterans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.